

President's Message

Dear Friends,

I'd like to give kudos this month to two FAL activities:



1. FAL sponsored a garden in front of the Bay Farm Library. We contributed funds to buy plants, mulch and fertilizer. On a recent Saturday morning, FAL board members and supporters alike worked the soil to place the plants, thus creating a beautiful area around the Bay Farm Library. A small amount of work remains to place boulders and plant identification markers. I am looking forward to seeing the garden flourish as the plants grow and eventually replace the weeds and bare soil. Thanks to the Bay Farm Library staff, led by Rosemary van Lare and Matt Hagedorn for a great proposal and to all of the volunteers who contributed their gardening expertise.
2. The Friends Cafe is receiving positive buzz! The Mercury News featured eight library cafes in a recent story, and the Friends Cafe included in [the article](#). To our knowledge, we are the only all-volunteer library cafe. The Cafe Team is doing an outstanding job testing new products and attracting new customers. Stop by to say hi, enjoy the offerings and take in the festive springtime decorations.

Mark your calendars for FAL's next book sale, May 14-17 in the Stafford Room of the Alameda Free Library. We continue to receive generous book donations and are delighted to rehome them to book sale customers to raise money for the Alameda Free Library. The FAL Board and book sale team look forward to seeing everyone at the May sale.

Warm regards,

Karen Butter
President, Friends of the Alameda Free Library

**Celebrate National Library Week with
the San Francisco Giants!**



[Library Night with the San Francisco Giants](#)

Mon, Apr 7 @ 6:45 PM

Oracle Park

Monday, April 7 is Library Night at Oracle Park. Ticket proceeds purchased through [this link](#) benefit the Alameda Free Library via FAL.

What's Happening in the Friends Cafe?

Welcoming Spring with a Seasonal Treat

Cafe Hours

10 AM - 4 PM every day
(except Weds: 12 - 4 PM)

Main Library

Spring is here, welcoming longer days, warmer weather and the perfect reason to enjoy the outdoor patio of the [Friends Cafe](#). Whether you're soaking up sunshine with a good book or catching up with a friend over coffee, the cafe provides a relaxing spot to enjoy Spring.

This April, the Cafe is featuring its food of the month: egg bites with eggs, ham and cheese. Light yet satisfying, these flavorful bites make for a great breakfast or midday snack, especially when paired with a freshly brewed coffee or tea. Take them to go for a stroll around the library or savor them at one of the patio tables while enjoying the spring air.

Inside, the Cafe continues to be a favorite gathering place for readers, writers, knitters, study groups and parents with children. The aroma of coffee fills the space as book lovers dive into new stories and the hum of quiet conversation creates a welcoming atmosphere.

So whether you're stopping by for a quick bite or settling in for a leisurely afternoon, the Friends Cafe is ready to help you embrace spring—one delicious egg bite at a time.

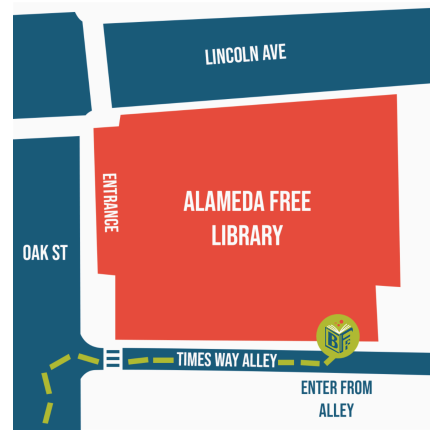


Books For Friends (BFF)

Alameda's Curated Bookshop

BFF Hours
Thu - Sat, 12 - 4 PM
Main Library

Stop by and check out our special selection of books at great prices! Enter from inside the library via the Friends Cafe or use the outside entrance on Times Way Alley.



Upcoming FAL Events

[EH: Earth Without Art](#)
Virtual Event (Zoom)
Wed, Apr 16 @ 7 PM

A Presentation and Conversation with the Phoenix Art Museum.

Space exploration in the 1970s galvanized a generation to look at our planet differently. The diversity of life on Earth, captured by explorers and Hudson River School artists, was suddenly dwarfed. Contemporary artists challenge landscape painting traditions and turn trash into treasure. We will discuss how art and activism intersect when looking at the human impact on our changing environment.



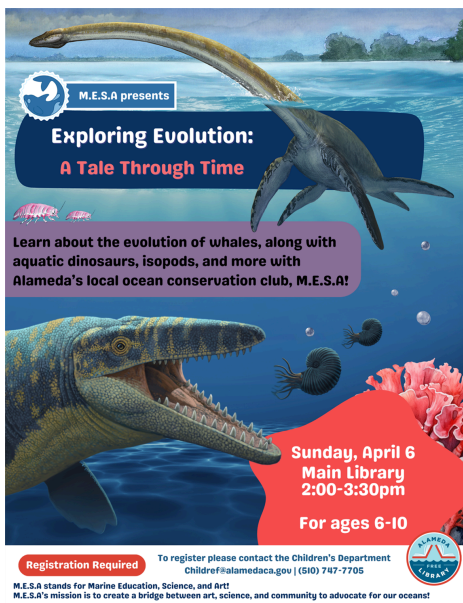
Alameda Free Library Events

Sponsored by FAL

All events are free and open to the public. Check out the full [events calendar here](#) or call the Library at 510-747-7777 for more information.

These events are made possible due to your donations to the Friends of the Alameda Free Library.

FOR KIDS, TWEENS, TEENS & FAMILIES

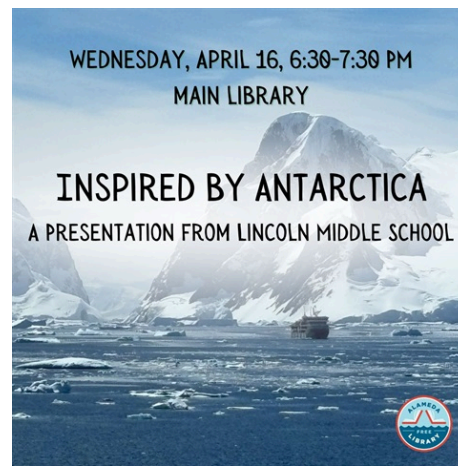


MESA @ the Library:
Exploring Evolution

Apr 6, 2 PM
Main Library

Join us as we learn about the evolution of whales, aquatic dinosaurs, isopods and more with Alameda's local ocean conservation club, M.E.S.A!

*This program is designed for children ages 6-10.



Inspired by Antarctica

Apr 16, 6:30 PM
Main Library

Join Lincoln Middle School students and science teacher Jenny Hartigan at the Main Library to hear stories of Antarctica. Jenny traveled as part of a select group of 34 teachers chosen by National Geographic and has inspired her students to get involved. All ages are invited to learn about the importance of taking care of our planet via LMS students through art, interactive games, video, poetry and more!



Día de los Niños
Celebration
Apr 6, 2 PM



Celebración del Día de los
Niños
Apr 6, 2 PM

Main Library

Watch an amazing puppet show (12:30 pm - 1:30 pm) presented by Puppet Art Theater Co. Afterwards, we'll sing and dance with a bilingual performance (2:00 pm - 3:00 pm) by Cascada de Flores. We'll cap the day by enjoying free fresh churros (3:00 - 4:00 pm) in the parking lot, while supplies last.

Don't forget to capture a keepsake with our free photobooth station running from 2:30 pm - 4:30 pm!

Additionally, there will be free health and development screening services for children from 12:30 pm - 4:30 pm. School readiness materials will be made available at no cost for families while supplies last. This service is provided by Alameda Family Services.

Biblioteca Principal

Veremos un increíble espectáculo de marionetas presentado por Puppet Art Theater Co. de (12:30 p.m. a 1:30 p.m.), además cantaremos y bailaremos con una actuación bilingüe de Cascada de Flores de (2:00 p.m. a 3:00 p.m.), y por último, disfrutaremos de churros* gratis de (3:00 p.m. a 4:00 p.m.) en el estacionamiento.

*Disponibilidad limitada.

¡No olvides *capturar* un recuerdo con nuestra estación de fotomatón gratuita de (2:30 p.m. a 4:30 p.m.)!

Además, habrá servicios gratuitos de detección de salud y desarrollo para niños de (12:00 p.m. a 4:30 p.m.) Los materiales de preparación escolar estarán disponibles sin costo para las familias hasta agotar existencias. Este servicio es proporcionado por Alameda Family Services.

FOR ADULTS



[Workshop: Upcycled Fabric Twine](#)
Apr 22, 6 - 7 PM

Author Talk - Dena

Takruri

Apr 18, 2:30 - 4 PM

Main Library

Join local author Dena Takruri to discuss her book [*They Called Me a Lioness: A Palestinian Girl's Fight for Freedom.*](#)

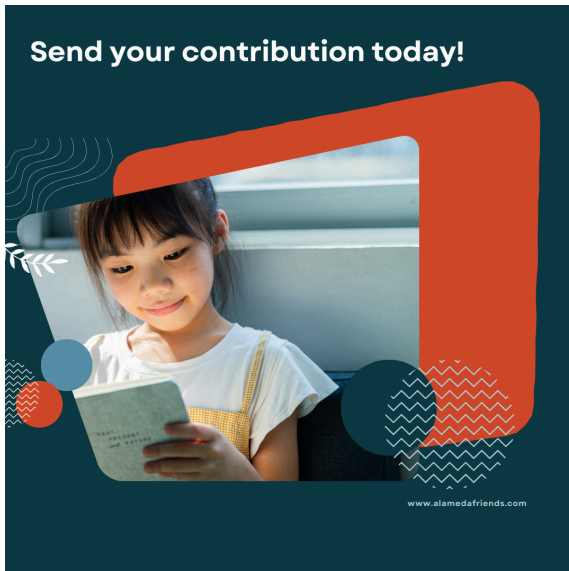
“Writing with journalist Takruri, Tamimi delivers a passionately argued, profoundly empathetic, and deeply informed examination of her country’s occupation. Her circumspection and clarity of thought are matched only by her vulnerability. An expertly crafted, trenchant memoir from a formidable activist.”

— Kirkus Reviews

Main Library

Discover the art of upcycling by creating your own eco-friendly twine from old clothing and fabric remnants. Instruction, materials and ways to use your hand-made twine will be provided. This is a fun, easy and versatile craft perfect for all skill levels.

Support the Friends of the Alameda Free Library



In 2025, we encourage you to support the Alameda Free Library through Friends of the Alameda Free Library's Annual Campaign! Your monetary gift fuels engaging programs, expands book and eBook collections and brings inspiring cultural events to the community. Every contribution strengthens our library’s role as a place for discovery, learning and connection. Join us in making a lasting impact – donate today!

Donate Today!

Stay up to date with the Friends!

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Friends of the Alameda Free Library is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization.

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